



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes & Ohio River Division

Brownfields and Urban Revitalization

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has a number of authorities for assisting States, local governments, and Native American Indian tribes in their assessment, remediation or redevelopment of brownfield sites. These programs provide cost-shared support, not grants. This fact sheet will discuss authorities which may be applicable to brownfield sites within the Great Lakes basin. These programs were authorized under the various Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA).

Planning Assistance to States

Authorization: Section 22 of WRDA 1974, as amended.

Program Goals: Support States and municipalities in their comprehensive planning for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. Section 22 can also be used in watershed and ecosystem planning.

Application: A Corps district is evaluating and ranking potential brownfield sites for the City of Chicago under this authority. Support might also include site characterization and development of remedial and redevelopment plans.

Cost Sharing: 50% Federal, 50% State, municipality or tribe.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$10,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$5,800,000.

Great Lakes Remedial Action Plans

Authorization: Section 401 of WRDA 1990, as amended.

Program Goals: To provide technical, planning and engineering assistance to States and local governments in the development and implementation of remedial action plans (RAPs) for Great Lakes areas of concern.

Application: Support could include assessment and remedial design of brownfields within any of the 31 Areas of Concern in the Great Lakes Basin.

Cost Sharing: 50% Federal, 50% Non-Federal; non-Federal share may include services in-kind.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$3,000,000. The FY 2000 appropriation for this Great Lakes program is \$500,000.

Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

Authorization: Section 204 of WRDA 1992, as amended.

Program Goals: Promote beneficial uses of dredged material in connection with dredging at authorized Federal navigation projects.

Application: Sediments dredged from navigation channels might be used to cap and landscape a brownfield site or to restore or create wildlife habitat. A dredged material disposal facility on the Rouge River was configured to restore and protect a coastal wetland.

Cost Sharing: 75% Federal, 25% Non-Federal; operation and maintenance costs are Non-Federal.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$15,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$1,000,000.

Interagency & International Support

Authorization: Section 234 of WRDA 1996.

Program Goals: To participate with Federal or international organizations to address problems of national significance related to water resources, infrastructure development, and environmental protection.

Application: Districts have received \$25,000 for support activities.

Cost Sharing: None required

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Expedited Reconnaissance Study

Authorization: Section 905(b) of WRDA 1986.

Program Goals: To conduct a Reconnaissance Study of a wide range of potential water resources projects at an accelerated schedule. Potential projects may include navigation, flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, shoreline or streambank protection, and water quality enhancement.

Application: Recon studies have been prepared for ecosystem restoration in the Turtle Creek Watershed, PA and port/industrial development with recreational/environmental restoration on the Ohio River, OH.

Cost Sharing: Expedited Reconnaissance Studies are conducted at full-Federal cost, not to exceed \$100,000.

Budgetary: The FY 2000 appropriation for this program directed ten studies in the Great Lakes region, all as Congressional Adds.

Partnerships

Partnerships may be developed between existing or planned Corps civil works projects for flood protection or navigation and brownfield site restoration or redevelopment efforts. A Corps district has partnered with the USEPA, State and municipal governments and private industry for the construction of a disposal facility for sediments dredged from Indiana Harbor at a brownfield site with especially high levels of contamination.

Reimbursable Support

Aside from the cost-shared authorities described above, the Corps can provide technical support to State, municipal and tribal agencies on a reimbursable basis. The Corps' expertise has been used by other Federal agencies and the military in the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites.

For More Information

In order to obtain more information about the application of any of these programs in the Great Lakes basin, contact the following Corps District offices for areas in:

New York, PA and Ohio

Philip Berkeley
Buffalo District
716-879-4145
Philip.E.Berkeley@usace.army.mil

Michigan, MN and WI

Joseph Wanielista
Detroit District
313-226-7474
Joseph.R.Wanielista@usace.army.mil

Illinois and Indiana

Phil Bernstein
Chicago District
312-353-6400 ext 2000
Philip.R.Bernstein@usace.army.mil

www.lrd.usace.army.mil/gl/gl.htm